should not give permanent appointments and give them lower salaries. (*Interruptions*).

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : I think she has answered enough on this. Question No. 265. (*Interruptions*). It should be on the basis of the question, not two supplementaries or ten supplementaries.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY : Madam, I agree. But it is relating to teachers' problems.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Mr. Narayanasamy, we have gone on to another question. Yes, Mr. Jogi.

भवन-निर्माण प्रयोजनार्थ लकड़ी के उपयोग पर प्रतिबन्ध

*265. श्री अजीत जोगी: श्री छोटू भाई पटेल: क्या शहरी विकास मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :—

(क) क्या यह सच है कि सरकार ने केन्द्रीय लोक निर्माण विभाग द्वारा सरकारी भवनों के निर्माण में इमारती लकड़ी के प्रयोग पर प्रतिबन्ध लगा दिया है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या सरकार इस संबंध में राज्य-सरकारों तथा निजी भवन-निर्माताओं को भी उसी प्रकार के निर्देश देने का विचार रखती है; और

(ग) यदि नहीं, तो उसके क्या कारण हैं ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P. K. THUNGAN) :

(a) to (c) A statement is laid on the table of the Sabha.

Statement

(a) to (c) Government have taken a decision for banning use of wood in the construction of Government buildings by the Central Public Works Department for new works starting after 1st April, 1993. The State Governments/Union territories ave also been addressed impressing upon them to take similar steps and to advise the State level housing and building construction agencies for using wood substitutes to the exclusion of wood in the construction works. Housing Finance and lending Institutions in the housing sector have also been advised to promote on the use of the wood substitutes in the housing and building schemes funded by them.

It is expected that with the lead given by the Central Public Works Department and the State Governments/Union territories, the private builders would also fall in line and adopt substitutes for wood for construction purposes.

श्री अजीत जोगी : उपसभापति जी, चूंकि 1 अप्रैल, 1993 से केन्द्रीयशासन के अंतर्गत बनने वाले सभी भवनों में लकड़ी के स्थान पर वैकल्पिक वस्तुओं का उपयोग करने का आदेश दे दिया गया है, इसलिए मैं आपके माध्यम से माननीय मंत्री जी से यह जानना चाहूंगा कि अभी तक केन्द्रीय शासन के अंतर्गत बनने वाले भवनों में कुल कितने घनमीटर लकड़ी का उपयोग होता था ? उसका क्या मूल्य होता था ? लकड़ी पर प्रतिबंध लगने के बाद औसतन कितने वृक्षों की कटाई रुक गई ? और, जो विकल्प के रूप में वस्तुएं उपलब्ध की जा रही हैं, क्या वह लकड़ी से अधिक महंगी है या सस्ती है ? उससे शासन को क्या अतिरिक्त भार पड़ेगा विकल्प के रूप में जो वस्तुएं इस्तेमाल हो रही हैं, उनके रिसर्च और डवलपमेंट की क्या प्रगति है ? कौन से वैकल्पिक हैं और वह किन जगहों पर तैयार होते हैं ?

उपसभापति : आप एक ही सवाल पूछिए।

श्री अजीत जोगी : एक ही सवाल है।

उपसभापति : आप बस सवाल पूछेंगे तो एक का भी जवाब नहीं आएगा, मुझे इसका यकीन है।

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*सभा में यह प्रश्न श्री अजीत जोगी द्वारा पूछा गया।

एक पूछिए तो यकीनन जवाब आ जाएगा ।

श्री अजीत जोगी : इतना ही बता दें ।

उपसभापति : मंत्री जी, बोलिए ।

SHRI P. K. THUNGON : Madam, I would like to mention a few items which are cheaper than the wood.

SHRI AJIT P. K. JOGI : I have not asked this. I have asked what was the quantity of wood being used; what was its value and how much is the saving ?

SHRI P. K. THUNGON : All right, Madam, I would like to state that the timber used in the CPWD construction was 10 per cent of the total cost and that works out to be about Rs. 3 crores in 1992-93. So far as total cubic meters of the wood used is concerned, a similar question was asked earlier and on the basis of that, we have asked the details from the respective departments and the States. Therefore, I can supply that information to the hon. Member as soon as I get it. As regards comparability..

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Mr. Gautam, if you want to discuss anything, please go outside the House and discuss it. You cannot disturb Question Hour. I am very sorry to point it out.

SHRI P. K. THUNGON : As regards the comparability of material and alternative wood, these are like aluminium material, pre-cast cement concrete shutters, steel load frames and there is a long list. I would like to shorten it. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI AJIT P. K. JOGI : Don't read it. Supply the list to me.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : You may answer a specific question and if it is a long list, I would advise you to give it to the Member and answer only a specific question.

SHRI P. K. THUNGON : The Member can take it from me.

SHRI VITHALBHAI M. PATEL : No, no. You have to supply it to the Member.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : You tell him that you would give it to him.

श्री अजीत जोगी : मैडम, मंत्री जी ने अपने उत्तर में यह बताया है कि ऐसे ही निर्देश उन्होंने राज्य सरकारों को भी दिए हैं कि वे लकड़ी की कोई वैकल्पिक व्यवस्था का उपयोग करें । मैं यह जानना चाहूंगा कि राज्य सरकारों की प्रतिक्रिया क्या उनको मिली है ? वह सकारात्मक है या नकारात्मक है ? राज्य सरकारों का इसके कारण जो अधिक व्यय होगा क्या उसकी पूर्ति केन्द्रीय शासन करेगा ? क्या वे यह भी बताएंगे कि यदि राज्य सरकारें इसको नहीं मानती हैं तो क्या इसे अनिवार्य करने की दिशा में वे प्रयास करेंगे ?

SHRI P. K. THUNGON : Madam, we have written to all the State Governments and the Chief Secretaries of the State Governments and the Chief Secretaries of the Union Territories. Our effort has been that the CPWD should take a lead in this regard and since the CPWD is directly under the control of this Ministry—the Ministry of Urban Development—we have discussed it with all the departments under the CPWD who are engaged in construction work so that they can completely ban the use of timber from 1st April, 1993. We will certainly remind the State Governments and we will certainly try to collect the information also in due course.

श्री छोटूभाई पटेल : मैडम, लकड़ी के इस्तेमाल से हमारे देश के काफी जंगलों का सफाया हुआ है । यह अच्छी बात है कि सरकार इसके बारे में ठोस कदम उठा रही है । आपके माध्यम से मैं यह जानना चाहूंगा कि रिसर्च एंड डवलपमेंट ने कौन सी वैकल्पिक टैक्नोलॉजी देश को दिखाई है और यह टैक्नोलॉजी हस्तगत करने में कितनी धनराशि इस डिपार्टमेंट की खर्च हुई है और इसका कार्यान्वयन करने के बारे में कौनसा कंप्रिहैंसिव एक्शन प्लान मिनिस्ट्री ने बनाया है ?

श्री पी. के. थुंगन : सर, एक आर्गनाइजेशन है--बी.एम.आर.टी.पी.सी, जो बिल्डिंग के मेटीरियल को इम्प्रूव करने के लिए रिसर्च करते हैं और यह टेक्नोलोजो बिल्डिंग मेटीरियल को किस तरह से सस्ता और डूरेबिल बना सकता है, उसका भी काम करते हैं।

Also, to encourage the research work and use of alternative timber the excess concessions have been given to some industries so that they can produce wood alternative.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Illegal appointment in Kiruburu and Meghabatuburu Mines run by Bokaro Steel Plant

*262. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM : Will the MINISTER OF STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have completed investigations into the series of complaints against illegal appointments made by the senior officers of the Bokaro Steel Plant in its Kiruburu and Meghahatuburu mines during the past three years;

(b) whether the Director Raw Material division has found several administrative lapses and financial irregularities against some of the officers of the Bokaro Steel Plant and its mines;

(c) whether in spite of charges some of these officers have been tipped for higher posts;

(d) whether Government propose to initiate appropriate action against those officers and rescind orders for their further elevation until entire charges are looked into; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) The complaints regarding irregularities in appointments at Kiruburu and Meghahatuburu Mines were inquired into by a committee constituted by the Executive Director, RMD|SAIL. The report of the Enquiry Committee has been received by SAIL.

(b) The Enquiry Committee concluded that there were some administrative lapses in the recruitment. However, no financial irregularities were reported.

(c) So far no charges have been framed against any of the executives.

(d) and (e) Having regard to the findings of the Report of the Committee, SAIL has issued show-cause notices to some of the Executives associated with the recruitment process, with a view to determining their liability for disciplinary action. Under he policy of the company, promotion is withheld in case disciplinary action is pending against the concerned Executive. A decision regarding disciplinary action against them will be taken by SAIL Management on an assessment of their replies to the show-cause notices and other factors.

Protection to Pepper Culivators

*266. SHRI V. GOPALSAMY :

SHRI PASUMPON THA. KIRUTTINAN :

Will the MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have conducted any survey to study the extent of damage caused to pepper cultivation in the country;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) if the answer to part (a) above be in the affirmative what steps Government propose to take to protect the pepper cultivators ?